

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A mixing apparatus comprising:

- an input device having a plurality of input channels;
- a first assigning device that assigns a respective one ~~respective ones~~ of a supplied plurality of first audio data to each one of said plurality of input channels;
- a bus device that mixes the plurality of first audio data assigned to the respective ones of said plurality of input channels;
- an output device that outputs the audio data mixed by said bus device;
- a storage device that stores a plurality of second audio data;
- a plurality of operating members each being disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;
- a second assigning device that assigns at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in said storage device to at least one of said plurality of operating members; and
- a reproducing device for reproducing second audio data when the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the one of the plurality of second audio data is assigned is detected by the sensor as being depressed;

wherein the second audio data reproduced by said reproducing device is supplied to said first assigning device and assigned to one of said plurality of input channels by said first assigning device, and said bus device mixes the second audio data and the first audio data, and said output device outputs the mixed audio data.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A mixing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein at least two of said plurality of operating members are disposed adjacent to each other, and if a second audio data to be assigned is stereo audio data of two channels, said second assigning device assigns the stereo audio data of two channels to the two adjacent operating members among said plurality of operating members.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A mixing apparatus comprising:

- an input device ~~that~~ having a plurality of input channels;
- a first assigning device that assigns a respective one ~~respective ones~~ of a supplied plurality of first audio data to each one of said plurality of input channels;
- a bus device that mixes the plurality of first audio data assigned to the plurality of input channels;
- an output device that outputs audio data mixed by said bus device;
- a first storage device that stores a plurality of second audio data;
- a plurality of operating members each being disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;
- a second assigning device that assigns at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in said storage device to at least one of said plurality of operating members;
- a second storage device;
- a first control device that causes said second storage device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data;
- a reproducing device that reads out and reproduces the second audio data from said second storage device when the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected by the sensor as being depressed; and
- a second control device that causes said second storage device to store information indicating timing of depressing the at least one of said plurality of operating members.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A mixing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the second audio data caused to be stored by said first control device and the information caused to be stored by said second control device are stored in separate areas in said second storage device.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A mixing device comprising:

- an input device that inputs a plurality of first audio data;
- a built-in hard disk device that stores a plurality of second audio data;
- an external storage device that stores a plurality of third audio data;
- a plurality of operating members each being disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;
- an assigning device that assigns at least one from among the plurality of second audio data stored in said built-in hard disk device and/or the plurality of third audio data stored in said external storage device, respectively, to at least one of said plurality of operating members;
- a memory;
- a control device that is responsive to said assigning device assigning the third audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members, for causing said built-in hard disk device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data and causing said memory to store the assigned third audio data, said control device being further responsive to said assigning device assigning the second audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members, for reading out the assigned second audio data from said built-in hard disk device and causing said memory to temporarily store the assigned second audio data without double storing the assigned second audio data in said built-in hard disk; and

a reproducing device that reads out and reproduces the second or third audio data from said memory when the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the second or third audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed.

Claim 6 (original): A mixing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said operating members are pads.

Claim 7 (original): A mixing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said operating members are pads.

Claim 8 (original): A mixing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said operating members are pads.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A method of controlling a mixing apparatus, comprising:

- a first assigning step of assigning a respective one of a supplied plurality of first audio data to each one of a plurality of input channels of an input device;
- a mixing step of mixing the plurality of first audio data assigned to the respective ones of said plurality of input channels;
- an output step of outputting the audio data mixed in said mixing step;
- a storing step of storing a plurality of second audio data in a storage device;
- a second assigning step of assigning at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in said storage device to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression; and
- a reproducing step of reproducing the second audio data when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected by the sensor as being depressed;

wherein the second audio data reproduced in said reproducing step is supplied to said first assigning step and assigned to one of said plurality of input channels in said first assigning step, and the second audio data and the first audio data are mixed in said mixing step, and the mixed audio data is output in said output step.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method of controlling a mixing apparatus, comprising:

- a first assigning step of assigning a respective one ~~respective ones~~ of a supplied plurality of first audio data to each one of a plurality of input channels of an input device;
- a mixing step of mixing the plurality of first audio data assigned to the respective ones of said plurality of input channels;
- an output step of outputting the audio data mixed in said mixing step;
- a storing step of storing a plurality of second audio data in a first storage device;
- a second assigning step of assigning at least one of the plurality of second audio data stored in the first storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;
- a first controlling step of causing a second storage device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data;
- a reproducing step of reading out and reproducing the second audio data from the second storage device when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned is detected by the sensor as being depressed; and
- a second controlling step of causing the second storage device to store information indicating timing of depressing the at least one of said plurality of operating members.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method of controlling a mixing device, comprising:

- an input step of inputting a plurality of first audio data;
- a mixing step of the input plurality of first audio data;
- a first storing step of storing a plurality of second audio data in a built-in hard disk device;
- a second storing step of storing a plurality of third audio data in an external storage device;
- an assigning step of assigning at least one from among the plurality of second audio data stored in the built-in hard disk device and/or the plurality of third audio data stored in the external storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;
- a controlling step of causing, in response to assigning the third audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members in said assigning step, the built-in hard disk device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data and causing said memory to store the assigned third audio data, and reading out, in response to assigning the second audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members in said assigning step, the assigned second audio data from the built-in hard disk device and causing the memory to temporarily store the assigned second audio data without double storing the assigned second audio data in the built-in hard disk; and
- a reproducing step of reading out and reproducing the second or third audio data from the memory when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second or third audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A program, embodied on a computer-readable medium,
for causing a computer to execute a method of ~~A computer-readable medium containing a~~
~~mixing control program executable by a computer, said program comprising:~~

using a first assigning module to assign a respective one ~~for assigning respective ones of~~
a supplied plurality of first audio data to each one of a plurality of input channels of an input
device;

using a mixing module to mix ~~for mixing~~ the plurality of first audio data assigned to the
respective ones of said plurality of input channels;

causing an output module for outputting to output the audio data mixed in said mixing
module;

causing a storing module to store ~~for storing~~ a plurality of second audio data in a storage
device;

using a second assigning module to assign ~~for assigning~~ at least one of the plurality of
second audio data stored in said storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of
operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the
depression; and

causing a reproducing module to reproduce ~~for reproducing~~ the second audio data when
the at least one of said plurality of operating members to which the second audio data is assigned
is detected by the sensor as being depressed;

wherein the second audio data reproduced in said reproducing module is supplied to said
first assigning module and assigned to one of said plurality of input channels in said first
assigning module, and the second audio data and the first audio data are mixed in said mixing
module, and the mixed audio data is output in said output module.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A program, embodied on a computer-readable medium,
for causing a computer to execute a method of ~~A computer-readable medium containing a~~
~~mixing control program executable by a computer, said program comprising:~~

using a first assigning module to assign a respective one ~~for assigning respective ones of~~
a supplied plurality of first audio data each to one of a plurality of input channels of an input
device;

using a mixing module to mix ~~for mixing~~ the plurality of first audio data assigned to the
respective ones of said plurality of input channels;

causing an output module to output ~~for outputting~~ the first audio data mixed in said
mixing module;

causing a storing module to store ~~for storing~~ a plurality of second audio data in a first
storage device;

using a second assigning module to assign ~~for assigning~~ at least one of the plurality of
second audio data stored in the first storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of
operating members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the
depression;

using a first controlling module to cause ~~for causing~~ a second storage device to
temporarily store the assigned second audio data;

using a reproducing module to read ~~for reading~~ out and reproducing the second audio
data from the second storage device when the at least one of said plurality of operating members
to which the second audio data is assigned is detected by the sensor as being depressed; and

using a second controlling module to cause ~~for causing~~ the second storage device to store information indicating timing of depressing the at least one of said plurality of operating members.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A program, embodied on a computer-readable medium,
for causing a computer to execute a method of ~~A computer-readable medium containing a~~
~~mixing control program executable by a computer, said program comprising:~~

using an input module to input ~~for inputting~~ a plurality of first audio data;

using a mixing module for the input plurality of first audio data;

causing a first storing module to store ~~for storing~~ a plurality of second audio data in a
built-in hard disk device;

causing a second storing module to store ~~for storing~~ a plurality of third audio data in an
external storage device;

using an assigning module to assign ~~for assigning~~ at least one from among the plurality of
second audio data stored in the built-in hard disk device and/or the plurality of third audio data
stored in the external storage device, respectively, to at least one of a plurality of operating
members each disposed to be depressed and having a sensor for detecting the depression;

using a controlling module to cause ~~for causing~~, in response to assigning the third audio
data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating members in said assigning
module, the built-in hard disk device to temporarily store the assigned second audio data and
causing said memory to store the assigned third audio data, and reading out, in response to
assigning the second audio data, respectively, to the at least one of said plurality of operating
members in said assigning module, the assigned second audio data from the built-in hard disk
device and causing the memory to temporarily store the assigned second audio data without
double storing the assigned second audio data in the built-in hard disk; and

causing a reproducing module to read ~~for reading~~ out and reproduce ~~reproducing~~ the second or third audio data from the memory when the at least one of the plurality of operating members to which the second or third audio data is assigned is detected as being depressed.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A mixing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first audio data includes one of an audio signal supplied from an A/D converter and an audio signal supplied from an expansion card.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A mixing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first audio data includes one of an audio signal supplied from an A/D converter and an audio signal supplied from an expansion card.